THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Government are aware of the need to improve the standards of teaching especially in rural areas.

(b) Several measures have been contemplated under the Programme of Action prepared for the implementation of the National Policy on Education, 1986. Some of them are:

(i) establishment of grievances redressal machinery to attend to the legitimate grievances of teachers;

(ii) formulation of guidelines/rules for posting and transfer of teachers;

(iii) creation of machanism for verification of norms of behaviour expected of teachers;

(iv) establishment of a comprehensive, open, participatory and data based system of teacher evaluation;

(v) organising orientation course in the light of the National Policy on Education for elementary and secondary school teachers to improve teacher motivation;

(vi) In addition, various proposals for improving essential facilities and providing support services in primary schools as well as for enforcing greater teacher accountability, are also expected to have a positive influence in seeing that teachers devote proper attention to childrens' education.

Student teacher ratio

2413. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any ratio has been fixed by Government, in respect of students and teachers in Primary/Middle/Higher Secondary schools in Delhi and if so, what is the ratio prescribed for Delhi/New Delhi.

(b) what is the ratio prescribed in other parts of the country, State as well as rural/urban areas-wise;

(c) whether the number of present sanctioned strength of teachers is much less than the ratio shown in the records of the Ministry; and

(d) if so, what steps Government have taken or proposes to take to bridge the visible gap?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) According to Delhi Administration, no teacher-pupil ratio has been prescribed as such. Norms have however been prescribed for determining the number of teachers required in a school on the basis of subjects taught, number of periods to be assigned to a teacher, number of sections and section strength.

(b) According to Selected Educational Statistics 1984-85, the average teacher-pupil ratio in the Country as a whole as on 30.9.84 was as under:

Primary	1 : 41
Middle	1 : 36
High/Secondary . . .	1 : 30
Higher Secondary Schools/Junior Colleges	1 : 27

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Every year more posts of teachers are sanctioned on the basis of the norms.

Government Schools in the country

2414. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Primary/Middle/Higher Secondary Government Schools or Government aided schools in the urban and rural areas in the country, area-wise;

(b) number of such school Government propose to open during the financial year 1987-88 in rural/urban areas of the country; and